

### "Theatre of Heavens" Program Continues At Big Observatory

Griffith park observatory planetarium's daily demonstrations in the city-operated institution of astronomy and science will continue thru December with the new program on "Building Blocks of the Universe." In the discussion of the new programs, Dr. Dinsmore Alter, observatory director, has promised visitors to the planetarium one of the most instructive and thrilling of the whole repertoire of the great planetarium instrument.

"The December program deals with the principal bodies which make up our universe," the director says, as he introduces this demonstration—and then he continues: "It starts in with the consideration of the stars—those much smaller than our sun to those that have a volume many millions of times that of the dwarf luminary which makes life possible for us. It considers stars so cold that they are reddish in color and others with a temperature more than 50,000 degrees Fahrenheit at their so-called surfaces. It shows stars whose average density is approximately 1/6000th that of the air we breathe and those 50,000 times as dense as water."

For closer study "It shows stars with a brightness 1/1000th that of our sun and others which have at times given many millions of times this light. It shows double stars, triple stars, quadruplets, and multiple stars of all degrees; small clusters, and large clusters, loose clusters, and compact clusters, and finally the great globular clusters of 50,000

or 100,000 stars brighter on the average than our own sun. These stars, and great volumes of hydrogen gas called nebulae in addition, form the galaxy whose trace we see in our sky as that mysterious band of light, the Milky Way, surrounding us. In this galaxy there are estimated 40,000 million stars. The distances of the farthest are so great that it requires 75,000 years for light traveling 186,000 miles each second to reach us from them.

"On beyond our own galaxy there are 100 million such galaxies, each with its thousands of millions of stars observable within the range of the largest telescope already built. One of the principal reasons for the building of the 200-inch telescope is that it will increase the number of observable galaxies and will make it possible for us to study them in much greater detail."

The observatory is open from 10 a. m. to 10 p. m. on week days and from 2 to 5 p. m. on Sundays, and there is no admission to its parlor for actual celestial observation, a museum of physical science, a set of splendid murals on science down thru the ages, and scores of exhibits and mechanical models. Planetarium demonstrations are at 11 a. m., 3 p. m., and 8 p. m., on week days, and at 2:30 and 3:30 on Sunday. Admission is 25 cents per person, except for school classes which are admitted free at the 11 a. m. programs when their teachers have made advance reservations.

### POINTERS ON POOL BUILDING

The desirability of gardens is usually enhanced by a pool. They add immensely to the cool appearance, serve to set off plantings, and form the basis of an interesting experience for most gardeners, when growing lilies and water plants is added to the outdoor activities for the summer. Pools can be built in either a formal or informal manner. The formal types usually use a rim of brick or stone, and follow a geometric outline. Informal pools are generally bordered by plants, and sometimes have a border of flagstones.

In either case, and whether the pool is to be used for wading by the children or growing water-plants, or as a purely decorative feature, certain steps should be taken in the preparation of the sidewalls. They are best constructed of concrete, usually reinforced with fence or chicken wire. The sidewalls should have a slight slope, in the average pool not exceeding four or six inches. The bottom of the pool can then be kept flat, except in the case of the very small pool, where a saucer shape should be used. A drain should be provided, but if a regular pipe cannot be included, a garden hose can be used to siphon the water into the basement drain or a low spot in the yard when it is necessary to drain the pool in the fall.

#### RENT TO OWN

The Insured Mortgage system of the FHA makes it possible to finance up to 80 percent of the appraised value of a home (both house and lot) with monthly payments just like rent.

## Columbia Steel's Bay Bridge Films Draw Large Crowd at Rotary Meeting



—Photo by Haig & Haig.

They Dined and Then Witnessed the Four-Year Construction Project Reviewed on Sound-Picture Screen

### DRAMA OF STEEL UNFOLDS BEFORE CLUBMEN AND GUESTS

Less than a month after the great \$77,600,000 structure was thrown open to traffic, members of the Torrance Rotary Club and their many guests had the privilege last Thursday night of seeing and hearing sound-movies of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge which depicted many phases of the four-year construction job. The 80-odd men and women present sat in the darkened American Legion clubhouse while the greatest bridge in the world for its cost, length, quantities of Columbia steel, weight, depth and a number of other factors was built before their eyes in 45 minutes.

Brought to Torrance by E. M. Barber, general superintendent of the Columbia Steel plant, the motion picture proved as thrilling a record of engineering achievement as the most gripping Hollywood studio production. Filmed for the Columbia Steel Company from start to finish, the celluloid record of the eight and one-quarter mile span held the keen interest of the large crowd and at the end received a burst of applause.

Steel Men Welcomed A large number of Columbia Steel executives and office workers, headed by Superintendent Barber, were present as guests of the Rotarians. For many of them and for all of the clubmen and other guests it was the first time they had seen the movie record of the bay bridge.

President Charles V. Jones presided at the dinner meeting which was out short to provide more time for the unreeing of the picture. All guests present were introduced by their clubmen hosts, the steel men receiving a warm welcome. John B. Eberhart, publicity manager for Columbia, exhibited the sound-movies.

From the foundation or submarine work, to the paving of the two-deck traffic lanes, the work of the American Bridge Company, subsidiary of the United States Steel Corporation, was flashed across the screen to the accompaniment of orchestral music, a commentator's voice and the sound of steel on steel.

Better Understanding Men atop the dizzy heights of the great towers, men handling the cables, men swinging across the cat-walks high over San Francisco bay and the men, veterans in the craft, who directed the great project were shown in a series of views that provided a better understanding of what went into the job.

This stupendous job was bid by the subsidiaries of United States Steel, with the Columbia Steel Company as general contractor. The American Bridge Company performed the major fabrication and erection of the steel, including the spinning of the cables; the Carnegie-Illinois Steel Corporation supplied the plain steel shapes and plates and the American Steel and Wire Company the cable wire and suspender wire ropes.

Among the men from the Columbia Steel Company who were invited as guests of Rotarians at the dinner were: E. M. Barber, O. A. Kresse, Carl Warner, W. N. Nye, E. M. Johnson, H. T. Lintott, William Day, A. G. Brown, A. B. Nauer, L. C. Burger, John B. Eberhart, L. M. Fernley, Paul Watson, Jack Desario, Paul Dynes, Dick Schumert, Fred Bassick, Howard Swallow, Harlow Dotson, Ross Hutton, Harry Showalter, D. Polhemus, Irvin C. Rous, J. C. Snow, Gilbert Wegner, Hayes Schlundt and Arthur Armitage.

### Masons at Lomita Elect New Officers

Lomita Masonic lodge, No. 644, elected Earl Barringer of Hollywood, as Master to succeed John Sanders at the meeting on Dec. 4, and made plans for a public installation of officers Dec. 29 at the old Odd Fellows hall on Roosevelt highway.

At that time Job Paddock, who will be 90 years of age, will be installed as chaplain of the lodge for the seventh time. Other officers chosen for 1937 were: D. F. Maulty, senior warden; Ray Bailey, junior warden; Henry Pasqua, treasurer; O. W. Thistle, secretary; Mr. Lansie, senior warden; and Basil Brady, senior steward.

### Townsend Club Activities

As Reported By Beth Paige

A good sized audience turned out to hear the speaker from headquarters last Thursday and a cheering surprise fell our way when in filed two or three long rows of fellow Townsendites from the San Pedro clubs.

It was the most forceful and dynamic speech that Russell Tatum ever delivered, and we have heard him many times.

It will soon be time to elect new officers; members should be thinking it over right away. Next Thursday will bring another entertainment. Your scribe heard something, too, about refreshments. At that time the date of next meeting will be decided as the holidays will cut in on our regular schedule.

### Girl Scout Troop Advances Members, Attends Broadcast

By LOIS JANE ALLEN

Arlis' Fossom conducted the Girl Scouts, Troop 1, business meeting in the absence of the president. Betty Pollis, Faye Hill, Jean Howe and Thelma Wright received their tenderfoot pins. Irene Findley and Virginia Smith were awarded second class badges. Lorain Hill and Lenore Schroder received observer's badges. A Scout compass was awarded to Marcella Smith for winning inspection for the month of November.

The troop attended the KXN Hollywood barn-dance broadcast at the Hollywood Woman's club Saturday night, Dec. 5. The broadcast was very interesting and was enjoyed by about 35 Torrance people. The troop is grateful to those who furnished cars and made it possible for members to enjoy the program.

### Want to See Things

CCC's in Palos Verdes Seek Information on Southland

### Lomitans Form Kiwanis Club

John Holm Will Lead New Group

Twenty-seven prominent Lomita residents formed that community's first service organization, a Kiwanis Club, this week with John Holm, well-known real-estate contractor and former member of the Torrance Kiwanis group, as president.

Last night Holm, A. M. Gamby, who has been elected vice president of the Lomita club, and A. F. Franklin, secretary-treasurer, attended the district meeting at Compton and received a warm welcome in behalf of the new organization. The Lomita club was sponsored by the Wilmington Kiwanians under the leadership of A. E. (Al) Drew.

Meet Every Monday The opening for the new group was discovered by Drew, who asked the extension division of Kiwanis International at Chicago to send a representative, Larry Dierks, to Lomita for the purpose of launching the club.

Before the club is finally chartered, 30 or 35 names will be on the list of members, according to Holm. The Lomitans will meet every Monday noon. Directors are Al Sonnichson, Norman Gardner, Dr. Albon F. Herchelroth, Wallace Welch, L. A. Wilson, Otis Pedersen and E. M. Mosher.

#### FOLLOW ALL RULES

All work and materials on The Herald's Demonstration Home will conform to the rules and regulations of the city and Los Angeles county.

### OIL INDUSTRY GIVEN PERMIT ON SOUTH ST.

A permit to establish an oil dehydration and topping plant on South street, approximately 900 feet east of Cherry avenue, was granted to Louis Steiner this week by the board of supervisors.

M. Eaton, 5708 Cherry avenue, testified the odor from refineries now operating there was so strong he could hardly live there, where he owns a drive-in market. On the other hand, it was disclosed that there were nine residences within a radius of one-half mile, which county zoning engineers said was "an unfortunate mixture of residences and heavy industry."

Supervisor H. C. Legg said he believed the site was in an industrial district, and moved to grant the permit.

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